

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:

Please amend the specification as follows:

Replace the paragraph, starting at line 20 of page 21 with:

As shown in FIG. 1, a suspension of fine solid material, eg derived from the waste water recovery system of a paper mill, the so-called "white water" is stored in a tank 1. The suspension has a total solids content which is generally in the range of from 0.5% to 20%, such as in the range of from about 0.5% to about 8% by weight of solids on a dry weight basis, and the solids generally comprise a mixture of short cellulosic fibres such as would pass through a round hole of diameter 76 μm and of fine mineral filler particles substantially all of which have an equivalent spherical diameter smaller than 1 μm . The suspension is delivered by means of a pump 2 through a flow meter 3 into a conduit 4 at a hydraulic pressure in the range of from 5 to 10 bar (50 kPa to 100 kPa). The pump is conveniently of the single-rotor screw pump type, for example of the Moyno or "MONO"TM type. This type of pump comprises a metal rotor which rotates within and coaxially with an elastomeric stator, the rotor and stator being of such design that the fluid passing through the space between them is compelled to follow a substantially helical path. Pumps of this type are capable of delivering liquids at pressures of up to about 20 bar or more. A suspension of calcium hydroxide, which may have a solids content in the range of from about 5% to about 40% by weight, is prepared in a tank 5 and is delivered by means of a pump 6, which may conveniently be of the same type as pump 2, through a combined flow and density meter 7 and a throttle valve 8 to conduit 4, where the lime suspension mixes with the suspension of waste solid material. A portion of the calcium hydroxide delivered by pump 6 may be diverted

through a throttle valve 9 back to tank 5. The proportion of calcium hydroxide suspension and waste solid material suspension in the mixture in conduit 4 may be determined by adjusting the settings of valves 8 and 9. The mixed suspension is delivered under a pressure which is monitored by a pressure gauge 10 to an in-line static mixer 11 which effects thorough mixing of the calcium hydroxide with the waste solid material. The in-line static mixer conveniently comprises a cylindrical outer casing and a large number of internal static vanes or baffles which cause the mixed suspension to undergo a large number of sudden changes of direction. In this way the turbulence of the suspension flowing in conduit 4 is increased and efficient mixing takes place.